

AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

In the claims

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1. (currently amended) A data set selecting apparatus comprising:

a storage medium including a plurality of storage areas, each storage area being correspondingly allotted to each of a plurality of data groups and storing a plurality of data sets which belong to the allotted data group;

a display screen;

a plurality of data group selection controls, each of which is correspondingly allocated for each of said plurality of data groups individually and selects a data group allotted to said each data group selecting control;

a display controller which causes said display screen to list a plurality of identifiers, each representing each of said plurality of data sets belonging to said selected data group; and

a plurality of data set selecting controls, each of which is correspondingly allocated for each of said identifiers being listed on said display screen and selects a data set represented by said identifier allotted to said each data set selecting control, wherein said data set selecting controls are three-dimensional controls located separately and outside of the display screen, each of which are correspondingly located near the allocated identifier listed.

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2. (Original) A data set selecting apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a control panel, and wherein said display screen is provided on said control panel, and said data group selecting controls are arranged on said control panel.

3. (currently amended) A method for selecting data sets from among data sets stored in a storage medium including a plurality of storage areas, each storage area being correspondingly allotted to each of a plurality of data groups and storing a plurality of data sets which belong to the allotted data group, said method comprising:

a step of selecting a data group including the data sets belonging thereto and stored in the allotted storage area of said storage medium, by using a plurality of data group selecting controls, each of which is correspondingly allocated for each of said plurality of data groups individually;

a step of displaying, on a display screen, a list of identifiers, each representing each of said data sets included in said selected data group; and

a step of selecting a data set from among the data sets correspondingly represented by said listed identifiers, by using a plurality of data set selecting controls, each of which is correspondingly allocated for each of said data set individually, wherein said plurality of data set selecting controls are three-dimensional controls located separately and outside of the display screen, each of which are correspondingly located near the allocated identifier listed.

4. (currently amended) A storage medium for use in an apparatus for selecting data sets, said apparatus being of a data processing type comprising a computer, a display screen, a plurality of data group selecting controls, and a plurality of data set selecting controls, said medium including a plurality of storage areas, each storage area being correspondingly allotted to each of a plurality of data groups and storing a plurality of data sets which belong to the allotted data group, said plurality of data set selecting controls being three-dimensional controls located separately and outside of the display screen, each of which are correspondingly located near the allocated identifier listed, and said medium further containing a program that is executable by the computer, the program comprising:

a module of selecting a data group including data sets belonging thereto and stored in the allotted storage area of said storage medium, by using a plurality of data group selecting controls, each of which is correspondingly allocated for each of said plurality of data groups individually;

a module of displaying, on said display screen, a list of identifiers, each representing each of said data sets included in said selected data group; and

a module of selecting a data set from among the data sets correspondingly represented by said listed identifiers, by using said plurality of data set selecting controls, each of which is correspondingly allocated for each of said data set individually.